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## **ABSTRACT**

A method and system for identifying a defocus wafer by mapping a topography of each wafer in a first wafer batch using a level sensor apparatus (100); calculating a focus spot deviation (402) from the data, the focus spot deviation (402) corresponding to a height by which a focus spot of a photo exposure module would be defocused by the topography; converting the focus spot deviation (402) to a corresponding wafer stage set point to which the photo exposure module is set, to focus the focus spot on each wafer in the wafer batch; and identifying a defocus wafer in the wafer batch, as a wafer having a topography that would defocus the focus spot, even when the photo exposure module is set to the wafer stage set point.